

hospitals. Besides the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been utilizing media channels—electronic and print—for disseminating information amongst the masses.

Comprehensive Insurance Scheme for People below Poverty Line

1650. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that government have introduced a comprehensive insurance scheme for people living below the poverty line;
- (b) whether this scheme would cover over 100 million people in this category; and
- (c) if so, why can't the scheme be extended to the full 32 percent of the population who are living below the poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Janashree Bima Yojana introduced this year is designed to provide life insurance coverage to persons below the poverty line, in rural and urban areas, and even persons who are marginally above the poverty line provided they belong to identified occupational groups.

Allocation of Funds to Ambedkar Foundation

1651. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation of funds to Ambedkar Foundation in each of the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the present activities and the extent of unutilized funds in each year of the said period; and
- (c) the main objectives of the fund and the steps taken or being taken to effectively utilize the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

[7 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a)
Funds allocated to the Foundation during last five years is as follows:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
Year	Total
1995-96	9.65
1996-97	10.99
1997-98	40.00
1998-99	12.00
1999-2000	—

(b) and (c) Present activities of the Foundation include the following:

1. Dr. Ambedkar National /International Awards.
2. Translation and Publication of Collected works of Baba Saheb Ambedkar.
3. Dr. Ambedkar Chairs.
4. Dr. Ambedkar National Public Library.
5. Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial.

Available Grant and interest on the corpus fund are being used for carrying on these activities.

The Foundation is taking following steps for utilizing the available fund:

1. Dr. Ambedkar National Award upto the* year 1998 has been given National Awards for the years 1999 and 2000 and Dr. Ambedkar International Awards for the years 1998 and 1999 are under process.
2. Translation and Publication of Collected Works of Baba Saheb Ambedkar into Hindi and regional languages is in progress. 107 volumes (Hindi-15, Bengali-17, Tamil-17, Gujarati-17, Malyalam-14, Telugu-10, Oriya-5, Punjabi-5, Kannada-5 and Urdu-2) have been completed. Rest work is under process.
3. Action is being taken for getting land for setting up the Dr. Ambedkar National Public Library and National Memorial.
4. Nine Ambedkar Chairs are engaged in Research in

Universities/Institutions are being assisted for doing research.

**New Centrally-sponsored schemes for welfare of people of Bihar,
West Bengal and NE States**

1652. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new Centrally-sponsored schemes being implemented or proposed to be implemented by her Ministry for the Welfare of the people in Bihar and West Bengal as well as NE States during 2000-2001;

(b) the funds allocated for this purpose;

(c) the amount released, so far, for these schemes and the funds spent thereon, till date; and

(d) the details of achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No new Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented or proposed to be implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in Bihar, West Bengal and N-E States during 2000-01.

(b) to (d) Docs not arise.

Case of Suicide by Advocate in A.P.

1653. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 12 women's organizations in Andhra Pradesh have demanded that the case pertaining to suicide by advocate Sangetha Sharma should be handed over to the CBI to ensure proper enquiry; and

(b) if so, the action proposed/taken to help women to fight against sexual harassment by senior lawyers and other anti-social elements in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF